

DRAWING AMENDMENTS

Please authorize the drawing replacement sheet for figures 1 and 2 including changes to figure 2 showing the backsheet 11.

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending in this application, claims 13-17 being newly added by the above amendment. Of these claims, claims 11 and 12 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Vines. Claims 1, 5 and 8 have been objected to because of the informalities identified on page 2 of the Office Action. The drawings have been objected to as not showing certain claimed features.

In view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks, this rejection and these objections are traversed, and reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-10 have been indicated as being allowable if rewritten to overcome the claim objections. Applicant acknowledges and appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter.

By the above amendment, the informalities identified by the Examiner in claims 1, 5 and 8 have been corrected. It is therefore respectfully requested that the objection to these claims be withdrawn. In view of the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter, it is now believed that claims 1-10 are allowable.

Applicant is providing herewith a replacement page for figures 1 and 2 showing a cut-away portion of a backsheet 11 in figure 2. The backsheet is cut-away to allow the grid structure to be visible between the backsheet and the facesheet. Additionally, reference to the axis in claim 1 has been removed. In view of the drawing replacement sheet and the amendment to claim 1, it is respectfully requested that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

U.S. Patent No. 4,201,991 issued to Vines discloses an antenna structure 10 including a base 12, shown clearly in figure 3, and a plurality of radial arms 14 mounted to the base 12 by sleeve members 16. A plurality of radio wave reflecting sheets 30, also shown clearly in figure 3, are mounted to the arms 14 and span the distance between adjacent arms 14. A cable 24 extends through holes in an outer end of the arms 14, and a turnbuckle 26 is used to reduce the length of the cable 24 and form the arms 14 and the reflecting sheets 30 into a parabolic shape. A feed boom assembly 20 including a feed antenna 22 is mounted to a plate 18 at the center of the base 12. Radio waves reflected by the sheets 30 are received by the feed antenna 22.

Applicant respectfully submits that the antenna structure fairly taught or suggested by Vines cannot anticipate the integrated reflector and boom assembly of Applicant's original independent claim 11. The Examiner has suggested that the base 12 of the Vine antenna structure 10 is Applicant's claimed second region defining a boom. Applicant submits that the boom in the Vine antenna structure 10 is the boom assembly 20, and is not the base 12. Further, Applicant's stiff grid structure that extends into the first region and the second region is different than the arms 14 and the screen of the reflecting sheets 30, see column 3, line 24. Particularly, the arms 14 do not include ribs that "extend in parallel in one piece from said first region into said second region and are positioned symmetrical to said axis of symmetry." Contrary, Figure 3 shows that the base 12 is a solid annular piece to which the arms 14 are mounted.

However, in the interest of expediting prosecution of this application, independent claim 11 has been amended above to state that the first region and the second region

are contiguous, where the second region is formed at an outer edge of the first region. If the Examiner maintains her position that the base 12 is the second region, then the base 12 is not formed at an outer edge of the first region, i.e., the sheets 30. Therefore, Vines cannot anticipate Applicant's independent claim 11 as amended above.

It is therefore respectfully requested that the Section 102(b) rejection be withdrawn.

New independent claim 13 defines an integrated reflector and boom assembly that includes a grid structure having a plurality of ribs, where the ribs include parallel ribs and angled ribs that define triangular areas in a reflector portion. Applicant respectfully submits that Vines, or any other prior art of record, does not teach or suggest an integrated reflector and boom assembly including such a grid structure.

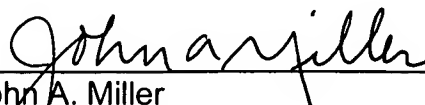
It is now believed that this application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that personal contact with Applicant's representative would expedite prosecution of this application, she is invited to call the undersigned at his convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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